

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-22 (Canceled).

23. (Currently Amended) A method for simulating a communication network on a digital computer by means of an object based architecture in which each object represents a device of the network, the simulated network being capable of operating in accordance with a plurality of different telecommunication systems, comprising:

identifying a first set of system-independent devices, operation of the system-independent devices being identical for each of the plurality of different telecommunication systems;

identifying a second set of system-dependent devices, operation of the system-dependent devices in said second set being specific for one of the plurality of different telecommunication systems, the second set including mobile terminal devices;

identifying a third set of interaction devices, the interaction devices of said third set being able to communicate and interact with said system-independent devices and with said system-dependent devices;

assigning to each device software modules relating to different functionalities managed by the device; and

modeling, on the digital computer, the mobile terminal devices as a grouping of modules simulating behavior of different ~~communication protocols~~ protocol layers present in the mobile terminal devices, wherein the modules comprise comprising:

application modules having a same implementation for the plurality of different telecommunication systems,

access modules being specific for the one of the plurality of different telecommunication systems, and

core network modules being used by the plurality of different telecommunication systems but with partly different operation for each of the plurality.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising providing one of a generic switching node (NSC) of a circuit-switched network and a generic host (HOST) holding an application server of a packet-switched network in said first set.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising providing one of a mobile services switching center (MSC), a serving GPRS support node (SGSN), and a gateway GPRS support node (GGSN) in said third set.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising providing one of a BTS and BSC for a GSM/GPRS system and a Node B and an RNC for a UMTS system in said second set.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the modules of said mobile terminal devices comprise a part that is common to all the systems of said plurality and a part that is specific for the one of the plurality.

29. (Canceled).

30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 26, further comprising configuring the set of said application modules and of said core network modules in a mobile unit.

31. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising configuring said mobile terminal devices as constituted by the composition of said mobile unit and of specific access modules of the one of the plurality of different telecommunication systems.

32. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 29, further comprising at least one of the group:

making the application modules of said mobile terminal devices communicate with modules present in the system-independent devices of said first set;

making modules present in the interaction devices of said third set communicate with the homologous modules present in said mobile terminal devices;
and

making the access modules of said mobile terminal devices communicate with modules present in the system-dependent devices of said second set.

33. (Currently Amended) A simulator for simulating a communication network on a digital computer by means of an object based architecture in which each object represents a device of the network, the simulated network being capable of operating in accordance with a plurality of different telecommunication systems, comprising:

identifying a first set of system-independent devices, operation of the system-independent devices being identical for each of the plurality of different telecommunication systems;

identifying a second set of system-dependent devices, operation of the system-dependent devices in said second set being specific for one of the plurality of different telecommunication systems, the second set including mobile terminal devices;

identifying a third set of interaction devices, the interaction devices of said third set being able to communicate and interact with said system-independent devices and with said system-dependent devices;

assigning to each device software modules relating to different functionalities managed by the device; and

modeling, on the digital computer, the mobile terminal devices as a grouping of modules simulating behavior of different ~~communication protocols~~ protocol layers present in the mobile terminal devices, wherein the modules comprise comprising:

application modules having a same implementation for the plurality of different telecommunication systems,

access modules being specific for the one of the plurality of different telecommunication systems, and

core network modules being used by the plurality of different telecommunication systems but with partly different operation for each of the plurality.

34. (Canceled).

35. (Previously Presented) The simulator as claimed in claim 33, wherein said first set comprises one of a generic switching node (NSC) of a circuit-switched network and a generic host (HOST) holding an application server of a packet-switched network.

36. (Previously Presented) The simulator as claimed in claim 33, wherein said third set comprises one of a mobile services switching center (MSC), a serving GPRS support node (SGSN), and a gateway GPRS support node (GGSN).

37. (Previously Presented) The simulator as claimed in claim 33, wherein said second set comprises one of a BTS and BSC for a GSM/GPRS system and a Node B and an RNC for a UMTS system.

38. (Previously Presented) The simulator as claimed in claim 33~~34~~, wherein the modules of said mobile terminal devices comprise a part that is common to all the systems of said plurality and a part that is specific for the one of the plurality.

39. (Canceled).

40. (Previously Presented) The simulator as claimed in claim 36, wherein:

the set of said application modules and of said core network modules is configured as a mobile unit.

41. (Previously Presented) The simulator as claimed in claim 40, wherein said mobile terminal devices comprise the composition of said mobile unit and of specific access modules of the one of the plurality of different telecommunication systems.

42. (Previously Presented) The simulator as claimed in claim 39, wherein communications are allowed according to at least one of the operations of the group:

- making the application modules of said mobile terminal devices communicate with modules present in the system-independent devices of said first set;
- making modules present in the interaction devices of said third set communicate with the homologous modules present in said mobile terminal devices;
- and
- making the access modules of said mobile terminal devices communicate with modules present in the system-dependent devices of said second set.

43. (Canceled).

44. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium storing instructions for executing a software program capable of being loaded in the memory of at least an electronic computer and comprising portions of software code for performing a method for simulating a communication network on a digital computer by means of an object based architecture in which each object represents a device of the network, the

simulated network being capable of operating in accordance with a plurality of different telecommunication systems, the comprising:

identifying a first set of system-independent devices, operation of the system-independent devices being identical for each of the plurality of different telecommunication systems;

identifying a second set of system-dependent devices, operation of the system-dependent devices in said second set being specific for one of the plurality of different telecommunication systems, the second set including mobile terminal devices;

identifying a third set of interaction devices, the interaction devices of said third set being able to communicate and interact with said system-independent devices and with said system-dependent devices;

assigning to each device software modules relating to different functionalities managed by the device; and

modeling, on the digital computer, the mobile terminal devices as a grouping of modules simulating behavior of different ~~communication-protocols-protocol~~ layers present in the mobile terminal devices, wherein the modules comprise comprising:

application modules having a same implementation for the plurality of different telecommunication systems,

access modules being specific for the one of the plurality of different telecommunication systems, and

core network modules being used by the plurality of different telecommunication systems but with partly different operation for each of the plurality.